

## John R. McArthur Commission Chairman

Tom Shaheen Executive Director

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**Date: March 24, 2008

Contact: Neosha Smith
Phone: (919) 301-3306

## Carteret County Woman Wins \$526,455 "Carolina Cash 5" Jackpot

-Monroe Woman Wins \$200,000 in Powerball Drawing--Thomasville Man Wins "Big Ol' Bucks" Top Prize of \$175,000-

**RALEIGH-**Jackoline Lewis from **Newport** had a dream the night before the March 20 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing that she was going to win the jackpot. The next day she told her friends, her family, and even her hairdresser that she was going to win. That night, as she watched the televised drawing, her dream and positive thinking came true. Her ticket matched all five white balls and was worth \$526,455!

Lewis purchased her winning ticket at H & D Express on N.C. Highway 24 in Newport. She said her first plan for the money is to put it in the bank! She added that she will probably use some of the prize money during her upcoming trip to Florida and do more traveling in the future.

Deborah Somers of **Monroe** was about to pay bills on Sunday morning when she decided to check the winning Powerball numbers from the previous night's drawing. As she compared the winning numbers to her ticket, she realized that she had all five white balls and that her ticket was worth \$200,000.

Somers told her husband and then called her sister to tell her the good news. She says she plans to pay bills, invest the money, and build a fence so their dog can run free. Somers purchased her ticket at Park Grove Grocery, Inc. on Lancaster Avenue in Monroe.

Two tickets worth \$200,000 each from the Saturday, March 22, Powerball drawing have yet to be claimed. The tickets were sold at the Wilco 221 on Eastern Boulevard in **Fayetteville** and KD's One Stop on Charlotte Highway in **Fairview**.

Also unclaimed from Saturday night's Powerball drawing are two tickets that matched four out of five white balls plus the Powerball. One ticket, which was sold at Fullwood Express on East Independence Boulevard in **Matthews**, is worth \$10,000. The other ticket was Power Played and is worth \$30,000 since the Power Play multiplier for the drawing was 3. This ticket was sold at Raygo Mart on Edgewood Avenue in **Burlington**.

(Page 1 of 2)

A total of 43,789 North Carolina Powerball players won prizes in the Saturday, March 22, drawing, ranging from \$200,000 down to \$3 for a total payout in prizes worth \$957,495. No one matched all five white balls plus the Powerball, so the estimated jackpot for the Wednesday, March 26, drawing is \$26 million.

Sean Bethea of **Thomasville** won the top prize of \$175,000 on the "Big Ol' Bucks" instant scratch-off game. He said he was in a daze when he realized he'd won, but that it also felt great to win.

Bethea purchased his ticket at the Pantry Shop #5 on National Highway in Thomasville. He plans to pay off his bills and take a vacation with his winnings.

The NCEL has paid out more than \$5.9 million total in instant scratch-off ticket prizes since Thursday, March 20. Also since Thursday, "Carolina Cash 5" players have won more than \$714,000 and "Carolina Pick 3" players have won more than \$561,000 in prizes.

Winners in the March 22 Powerball drawing:

Winner Deborah Somers	<u>Hometown</u> Monroe	<u>Amount Won</u> \$200,000	Store Where Ticket Was Purchased Park Grove Grocery, Inc. 2300 Lancaster Ave., Monroe
Unknown		\$200,000	Wilco 221 101 Eastern Blvd., Fayetteville
Unknown		\$200,000	KD's One Stop 1299 Charlotte Highway, Fairview
Unknown		\$30,000	Raygo Mart 2207 Edgewood Ave., Burlington
Unknown		\$10,000	Fullwood Express 11229 E. Independence Blvd., Matthews

Winner in the March 20 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<b>Hometown</b>	<b>Amount Won</b>	<b>Store Where Ticket Was Purchased</b>
Jackoline Lewis	Newport	\$526,455	H & D Express
			3439 N.C. Hwy. 24, Newport

Winner in the March 21 "Carolina Cash 5" drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	Amount Won	Store Where Ticket Was Purchased
Brian Preuss	Wilmington	\$50,000	Scotchman Stores #262
			310 S. College Rd., Wilmington

Winner in the March 15 Powerball drawing:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<u>Amount Won</u>	Store Where Ticket Was Purchased
Dale Hunt	Boiling Springs	\$10,000	Campus Store #146 123 N. Main St., Boiling Springs

(more)

Instant scratch-off ticket top tier prize winners:

<u>Winner</u>	<u>Hometown</u>	<b>Amount Won</b>	Game Played
Sean Bethea	Thomasville	\$175,000	"Big Ol' Bucks"
Terri Fox	Burnsville	\$77,777	"Emerald Green 7's"
Ogbay Woldegebriel	Charlotte	\$77,777	"Emerald Green 7's"
Revonda Adams	Moravian Falls	\$75,000	"Red Hot Bingo"
Judy Palmer	Gibsonville	\$21,000	"BlackJack"
Anthony Aytch	Ayden	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Jerry Evans	Wilmington	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Thelma Hill	Raleigh	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Earnest Jones	Kernersville	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Roy Nickell Jr.	Cary	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Annie Williamson	Franklinton	\$10,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Emma Alford	Louisburg	\$7,000	"Super 7's"
Ruth Green	Orange, NC	\$7,000	"Super 7's"
William Sampson	Laurel Hill	\$7,000	"Super 7's"
Mark Young	Hubert	\$7,000	"Super 7's"
Raymond Bell	Prince George, VA	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Fernando Henderson	Winston-Salem	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Doretha Hobbs	Goldsboro	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"
Karen Simmons	Fayetteville	\$5,000	"\$100 Million Cash Spectacular"

"Carolina Cash 5" Top Prize Prize \$50,000 to \$856,998	Winners Tally # of winners 114	
Powerball Winners Tally		
<u>Prize</u>	# of winners	
\$1 Million - \$200,000	97	
\$50,000 - \$10,000	565	
(The Powerball numbers above are since May 31, 2006, but do not include unclaimed prizes.)		

100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and college scholarships for need-based individuals.